

# NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE BUILDING CODE REVIEW BOARD

## *Minutes of Meeting*

February 9, 2007

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### Attendance:

#### **Robert Clegg, Chairman, Department of Safety**

Thomas Malley, Bureau of Electrical Safety and Licensing, licensed master electrician

Med Kopczynski, NH Municipal Association

Tedd Evans, Board for Licensing and Regulation of Plumbers, licensed master plumber

Wayne A. Richardson, NH Building Officials Association, municipal building official

John Tuttle, NH Home Builders Association, Architectural designer - residential

Rick Swain, NH Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Assoc., mechanical contractor, business

Mark Weissflog, NH Electrical Contractors Business Assoc., licensed master electrician

Wes Golomb, NH Vocational Technical School, Laconia, NH

Michael Santa, CBO, Governor's Commission on Disability, Architectural barrier/free design

Jerry Tepe, Board of Architects, licensed architect

Joel Fisher, Board of Engineers, licensed structural engineer

James Petersen, PE, Board of Engineers, licensed mechanical engineer

### Excused:

Laura A. Black, PE - Board of Engineers, licensed electrical engineer

Fred Baybutt, Associated General Contractors, building contractor - non-residential bldgs.

Thomas Lambert, Chief, NH Association of Fire Chiefs, Municipal Fire

### Absent:

Mark Tibbetts, NH Association of Fire Chiefs, municipal volunteer fire chief

Chairman Clegg declared the meeting open with a quorum of Board member present.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### Adoption of 2006 Codes (Exhibit 24, 24, 26, 27 and 28) to the State Building Code.

Chairman Clegg opened the Public Hearing on the adoption of 2006 codes. He asked if there was any person from the public wishing to speak. Seeing none, declared the Public Meeting closed, but would hold the books open for 48 hours if someone has written testimony.

## **GENERAL MEETING**

### Adoption of the January 12, 2007 meeting minutes:

Med Kopczynski made the **Motion** to adopt the January 12, 2007 meeting minutes. Motion was duly **Seconded**. The Chair asked for a vote. Vote take was **Unanimous** in favor to accept - and so declared by the Chair.

## OLD BUSINESS:

### Possibility of Code Amendment to establish a standard definition for potable water for private wells:

Tedd Evans reported that the sub-committee met this morning. The sub-committee's recommendation is to meet and work with DES to seek statutory authority to write Rules to define private water quality standards and maximum contaminant levels for private wells and possible notification of the same. Then if successful there, this Board could amend the definition of Potable Water in the Plumbing Code to refer to the DES standards. The regulation of it would be through the State Building Code. Wayne Richardson explained that they are looking for an initial standard on the well water on new construction only.

### Follow-up discussion of the Modular Home Industry - Chairman Clegg

Chairman Clegg will schedule the tour of facility in Claremont in the Spring.

### Upcoming Legislation:

The Chair stated that there are more pieces of legislation coming out. He will keep track of them and go from there - see what the Board desires to do.

### Penalty provision for RSA 155-A. (SB 62)

The Chair has filed the bill. Realtors are upset - so he will need the Board to testify especially those who do actual inspections. Explanation will need to be made. What the Bill is looking to do is to get the person who walks away from a job, does a job without getting a permit, has created violations and isn't coming back to finish or do the repairs. The bill is too broad right now as it's written. It needs to be limited. The bill is written to give the offenders time to fix the problem - and the problem is its too broad. For example if it's an electrical code violation - 20 days is too long - it could be a fire safety issue, fuel gasses another issue . . . etc.

Med passed out some statutes from other States - to show different systems gives a choice at the local level - where appeals all go to the Court. It reduces the time a citizen and municipality has to struggle with an issue. He would like to discuss this further at a future meeting. Med will bring in more information in on this for the March or April meeting.

### Proposed Amendments for Exhibits 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28:

Hold for another meeting - per the Chair. Do not want to bombard the legislature and confuse an issue.

### Letter received from All-Ways Accessible Corporation in Concord

Jerry Tepe asked if any official action was taken on this. Hold in abeyance. Chair said there is nothing the Board can do.

### Letter from Steven Rancourt - Electrical Contractors Business Association:

The Electrician's Board is changing this year to a 3-year cycle - instead of a 1-year renewal. In order to meet that requirement, the training has to be completed on the new Code which has not been adopted. Tom Malley will check it out. Jerry stated that where the Electrician's Board falls under the State Fire Marshal's office - it should probably go through them.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Errors on the FAQ submitted (12):

Marta said that what she will do is have Evvy email the FAQ as written now - and she will put in her Track changes to the list for all the Members to review.

### Energy Code Compliance discussion.

Med Kopczynski stated that the Home Builders Association at the national level is looking at getting more deeply involved and are about to adopt the Int'l Energy Code 2006, which has significant changes. Normally what 'they' would do is use Res-Check, a check sheet of inspections that will be made on the building. There are a number of issues to be looked at. Med thinks that this may be the standard utilized over the country. Wes Golomb said that a lot of the structures in NH are probably not up to standards. He also said that there is a residential energy guide that is 99% done, and should be completely done in the Spring. The PUC does have some training money for this area. Wayne will lead the discussion at the next months meeting about Code Training opportunities.

### Bcr 300 Updates and changes to the SBC Manuals Rules:

Jerry questioned on page one there was no effective date re: Bcr 303:1 - there was no effective date. He will talk with Marta about it.

### Rules listing amendments with notation of expiration unless ratified - how to avoid confusion:

Jerry Tepe said that the language in our Rules about the ratification process gives the impression that these expire in 2 years. This needs to be clarified. Jerry asked the language talks about the 2-year ratification process. Marta will re-word it

### Clarifying intent of RSA 155:

Wayne Richardson asked that on the website, next to the State Fire Code establish a link to add "as amended". Board has no objection and approved. Marta will have the link **added**.

## OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Santa suggested that with Building Safety Week coming up, we should be doing something with the Governor's office. Discussion of the importance of the State Building Code. An excellent opportunity to get the word out there.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair accepted a **Motion** to adjourn. Motion was duly **Seconded** declared the meeting adjourned after a **Unanimous** vote.